

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF WARBLER FROM CERRO  
DE LA NEBLINA, VENEZUELA, AND NOTES

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Further research in our collection shows that our expedition of 1954 to the newly discovered Cerro de la Neblina in the extreme southwestern part of Venezuela, near where Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela meet, collected the following new subspecies of Parulidae.

The extension of range to Venezuela of the rare genus *Coturnicops* (Rallidae) is noted and a second record for South America of *Vermivora leucobronchialis*, hybrid, is listed. We wish to thank the Curator of Birds in the American Museum of Natural History for access to that collection.

Specimens listed are in the Phelps Collection, Caracas, unless otherwise indicated. Names of colors are capitalized when direct comparison has been made with Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," 1912. Wing measurements are of the chord.

*Coturnicops notata duncani* (Chubb)

*Ortygops notata duncani* Chubb, Bds. Brit. Guiana, 1, p. 74, Pl. 3, Fig. 2, 1916. (Abary River, British Guiana; type in British Museum.)

One female, "Mérida," collected by Gabaldón 24 June 1916. Specimen in the American Museum of Natural History.

This specimen constitutes an extension of range of the genus from British Guiana to Venezuela. The locality "Mérida" of Gabaldón would not necessarily indicate a Subtropical Zone locality.

This well-marked subspecies was hitherto known only by the type in the British Museum. Not only is *duncani* an excessively rare bird but Hellmayr and Conover (Bds. Americas, Pt. 1, No. 1, p. 389, 1942) give the range of the nominate race *notata* as Uruguay and Argentina and say "The Masked Rail is one of the rarest neotropical birds."

This Venezuelan specimen has not been compared with the type of *duncani* but it is similar to the colored plate of Chubb in the original

description and quite different from *notata* in the American Museum of Natural History from Hamburgo Velho, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.

*Vermivora chrysoptera*  $\times$  *Vermivora pinus*  
 = *Vermivora leucobronchialis* (Brewster). Hybrid.

Hellmayr (Bds. Americas, etc., 8, p. 336, 1935) records a specimen from Valle, Mérida, that presumably is the only record from South America up to date. We have a specimen collected at Río Chiquito, western Táchira, 20 February 1956, in a forest at 1,800 meters altitude.

***Myioborus bruniceps maguirei*, new subspecies**

*Type*: From Cerro de la Neblina, Territorio Amazonas, Venezuela; 1,850 meters. No. 60274, Phelps Collection, Caracas. Adult male collected 20 January 1954 by Ramón Urbano. (Type on deposit at American Museum of Natural History.)

*Diagnosis*: Nearest to *M. bruniceps castaneocapillus* (Cabanis) of Mount Roraima and the other mountains of the Gran Sabana, Bolívar, from which it differs in having the gray of forehead less extensive, the breast more lemon yellow, without the orange tint; and the white eye-ring more prominent. Differs from *M. b. duidae* Chapman, of mounts Duida, Parí, and Huachamacari, by yellow instead of orange underparts.

*Range*: Known from Cerro de la Neblina, near the extreme southwestern part of Territorio Amazonas in low forest and bushes at altitudes between 1,800 and 1,850 meters.

*Description of type*: Crown, Sanford's Brown; forehead, lores and sides of head grayish black; orbital ring white; back and uropygium nearest to Citrine. Chin white; throat, breast, sides and abdomen Lemon Chrome; under tail-coverts white. Wings, Fuscous; bend of wing, under wing-coverts and axillaries mixed brownish and whitish. Tail, Fuscous, outermost rectrices white with Fuscous basally on inner webs; second ones with less white; third ones only apically with white; and the fourth ones only with white tips.

Bill (in life) "brownish-black"; feet "brown," under surface of toes yellowish; iris "brown." Wing, 64 mm; tail, 64; exposed culmen, 10; culmen from base, 13; tarsus, 20.

*Remarks*: Sexes alike in color, female with shorter wing. Size similar to *castaneocapillus*. Range of measurements: five adult males (inc. type)—wing, 64–66 (64.6) mm; tail, 63–67 (64.7); culmen from base, 13–14 (13.8); three adult females—wing, 60–63 (61); culmen from base, 14–14 (14). Measurements of *castaneocapillus*: five adult males—wing, 63–66 (64.2); tail, 58–62 (60.4); culmen from base, 13.5–14 (13.9); five adult females—wing, 60–62 (61.2); tail, 57–60 (59); culmen from base, 13–14 (13.8).

It gives us great pleasure to dedicate this new bird to Dr. Bassett Maguire, explorer extraordinary, Curator in the New York Botanical Garden, who, in his exploration of Cerro de la Neblina, facilitated our

access to the upper reaches of the mountain where this bird has its habitat.

*Specimens examined:* *M. b. castaneocapillus*—VENEZUELA: Bolívar, in the Gran Sabana region, mounts: Roraima, 13 ♂, 11 ♀, 5 (?); Cuquenán, 9 ♂, 6 ♀, 5 (?); Ptari-tepui, 6 ♂, 3 ♀, 6 (?); Soropán-tepui, 1 ♀, 3 (?); Chimantá-tepui, 5 ♂, 7 ♀, 7 (?); Uaipán-tepui, 4 ♂, 5 ♀, 7 (?); Aprada-tepui, 8 ♂, 4 ♀, 3 (?); Acopán-tepui, 3 ♀, 4 (?); Uei-tepui, 8 ♂, 4 ♀, 4 (?); Arabopó, 1 (?). *M. b. duidae*—VENEZUELA: Terr. Amazonas, mounts: Duida, 2 ♂, 1 ♀; Parú, 11 ♂, 7 ♀, 4 (?); Huachamacari, 7 ♂, 4 ♀, 1 (?). *M. b. maguirei*—VENEZUELA: Terr. Amazonas, Cerro de la Neblina, 5 ♂ (inc. type), 3 ♀, 2 (?).